

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1912

Joy is more divine than sorrow, for joy is bread and sorrow is medicine. — Beecher.

DEMOCRATS AND THE MOSQUITO CAMPAIGN

One of the curiosities of the present political campaign in Hawaii is the attitude of the Democratic candidates on the mosquito crusade carried on a few months ago. The Republican party had about as much to do with that crusade as the man in the moon. The policy of cutting down the banana trees in order to wage war against the yellow-fever mosquito was suggested, adopted, initiated and carried out by the volunteer citizens' committee, a body of excellent men who did sterling work at a critical period in the city's history. The courts declared that the board of health had no power to cut down the banana trees. But medical experts had given their honest opinion that the action was a measure toward safety, and the work was honestly carried out.

It was not a Republican policy; it was not primarily the action of the board of supervisors, of the board of health, of any city, county or territorial official or set of officials. But a cry against the cutting of the banana trees makes good campaign material, and the Democrats have seized eagerly upon the issue. Some of the Democratic candidates very likely are not aware of the facts, but the party leaders and the leading candidates know better, and if they wish to be entirely honest with the voters, they will not lend their indorsement to such silly and prejudiced untruths.

"HEARST'S FORGERIES"

Collier's Weekly in its latest issue does what in sporting parlance is described as "taking a fall out of" William R. Hearst, who, by the way, is one of Collier's pet enemies.

The enterprising weekly has delved into Mr. Hearst's recent "exposures" of Standard Oil letters, which have figured conspicuously in the campaign fund investigations. These letters were published and photographic fac similes given in Hearst's Magazine and, it was declared, showed a direct and probably corrupt connection between John D. Archbold, president of Standard Oil, Senator Penrose of Pennsylvania, C. H. Grosvenor, the late Mark Hanna and other prominent Republicans.

Now Collier's declares these published letters are forgeries and proceeds to prove it in a most businesslike and unanswerable way. The basis of the proof is that the letters were written on a peculiar make of typewriter that was not manufactured until some years after 1904, the date of most of the letters. Hence the letters are not bona fide. It is a well-known fact that every typewriter and every make of typewriter has easily-detected peculiarities of writing, and Collier's has secured plenty of evidence to prove the letters forgeries, and says so in a way that invites libel suits were it not the truth.

The queerest part of the exposure is, however, that Collier's declares Mr. Hearst has in his possession real letters and records just as incriminating as those he has faked, and the question naturally arises, Why has he tried to palm off forgeries when he could have produced documents just as sensational and far more able to stand the limelight?

SANE TREATMENT FOR THE INSANE

One of the most important subjects that has been taken up at the International Congress of Hygiene and Demography, at Washington, which Dr. J. S. B. Pratt and other Hawaiian medical experts are attending, has been that of treatment of the insane. According to the figures presented there were 184,712 insane patients in American hospitals last year, and they cost the people of the United States \$32,000,000 in twelve months. More than half of this insanity is preventable, it is contended, and the Congress discussed means to prevent it.

The cost of maintenance for the unfortunate inmates of institutions for the insane exacts a tax of slightly less than one dollar for every adult male in the United States.

"Non-restraint" is the slogan of the committee on insanity which has established branches or state committees in more than half the states. It is the newest propaganda in all medicine, say its promoters. The movement is less than five years old.

A fight against the superstition and mystery

of mental ailments and the treatment of the patients for the purely mental disorders exactly as though they were sane and by a process of induction drawing the wandering intellect back to saner channels is the wholesome story of modern psychopathic science.

The exhibit includes a vast quantity of discarded restraint apparatus, straightjackets, camisoles, bolts, bars, shackles and cages, "instruments of torture" every one of them, according to the latest accepted thought among the psychopaths.

DISGORGING DIX

In the nomination of William Sulzer for governor of New York by the Democratic convention recently there is food for political thought.

Murphy influences New York Democracy still, and Murphy undoubtedly preferred Dix, the present governor. Some months ago Murphy let it be known that he intended to see that Dix was renominated.

But the people of New York have rebelled against the "slick boss" and the New York Democrats refused to do his bidding on the governorship. They believed that Dix had been his pliant tool, and the recent police exposures in New York city strengthened that belief. Dix's failure to force an investigation could have resulted from nothing else but the knowledge that an investigation would trace the dirty trail of graft right back to the doors of Tammany Hall and to Murphy, who sits enthroned therein.

So Murphy threw Dix over. The storm of public indignation alarmed the astute manipulator of men and measures. Whether Murphy could have controlled the convention to the extent of forcing Dix on New York again is doubtful. Sulzer was named, at any rate.

The power of the bosses is passing the country over. The people are learning. They are learning from sad experience that to swallow candidates simply because their nomination has been dictated by the party bosses invites a nauseation of decent stomachs to the point of disgorging.

One of the pledges that every legislative candidate in Hawaii may well give the people is that he will support an act giving Honolulu the right to assess abutting property for municipal improvements. The Republican convention did not wish to incorporate this plank in the platform and it missed being presented to the Democratic convention, but it is clearly needed, it is the logical way of getting public improvements, and it affords the board of supervisors a direct way of getting improvements put through.

President Taft exemplifies the national love of baseball. While the Chicago convention was at its raging height, he was out at the Washington ball-park watching the Senators lick all comers. Now that the campaign grows hot, he is rooting for Boston to win the world's series from the New York Giants.

No one hears of Roosevelt going to a ball game. Nothing less than a Roman arena and a battle of gladiators would satisfy the Spartacus of Oyster Bay.

Charley Taft got back some of the money he put up for Bill's campaign. Lucky man! Nobody who put up for Teddy appears to have got anything back.

Judge Wilder's remarks at the Democratic mass-meeting last night would have been pretty good material for a small sensation while Secretary Fisher was here.

After fighting a couple of battles, Bulgaria has decided to give notice of severing diplomatic relations with Turkey. How thoughtful!

Russell Sage is about the only man they haven't mentioned in connection with these campaign fund contributions.

Keeps a man busy these days trying to remember whether it's the Shah or the Sultan that's in trouble.

Andrew Carnegie's gift to the Progressive campaign is probably a library full of Teddy's books.

Few of us are as lucky as the band-boys. They get a vacation while politics is at its height.

Don't forget to register.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

"SOLDIER" KING—I was never in better condition in my life. I am ready to take those runners out at the bar racks on any time.

LLOYD R. KILLAM—We expect a large number of visitors at the Y. M. C. A. tomorrow night. Come on, fellows, and bring your ladies.

PAUL SUPER—I see from a recent report that the average consumption of liquor in the state of Kansas is \$1.48 per capita, and in Missouri it is \$2.4. That goes to show whether or not prohibition in Kansas is a success.

PERSONALITIES

TONY SILVA of McInerney's, who went East some time ago, writes that he has had the pleasure of listening to two great political speeches. He expresses the opinion that Taft will not pull out winner.

HARBOR BOARD

(Continued from Page 1)

should cease and those of the utilities commission should begin. When the plans for the new organization assume definite form later this matter will doubtless be taken up and discussed in detail by the harbor commission, and recommendations may then be made by us.

Favor More Control. Commissioners Wakefield and McCarthy expressed views decidedly in favor of the harbor commission's control of the private wharves.

"We already regulate the charges at the public wharves, and to a certain extent, those at certain private wharves," said Mr. Wakefield. "This is in line with our regular duty, and if a public utilities commission is formed, it will not and in natural reason should not take this responsibility from the harbor commission."

"As we are in close touch with these matters we would be better able, because of our acquaintance with conditions, to attend to all wharfage regulations. I am certain the coming Legislature will be asked to give the board of harbor commissioners this power, and there is little doubt that that body will accede to such request."

Commissioner Wakefield, requested recently by the harbor commission to prepare figures showing the wharf situation in the Territory, has prepared his report in part, and it contains some interesting figures.

One of the most important of these is that the Territory owns wharves now worth approximately \$200,000, that it is paying out about \$18,000 annually for repairs, upkeep and interest alone, and that the income derived from wharfage charges at these does not make them anywhere near self-supporting.

Advocates Higher Rates. As a result, Mr. Wakefield intends recommending shortly that wharfage rates at the public piers be raised materially, so that the Territory will not be continually losing money on the proposition.

Lindsay's Opinion. The opinion of Attorney General Alex Lindsay, submitted to the board of harbor commissioners yesterday, in which he decides that under the present Territorial law that body has no power to control rates charged the public at private wharves, is published in full below:

"In re the question submitted for my opinion on October 3rd, viz: 'as to the authority of the Board, if any, over all landings (both public and private) and further, as to the rights of the Board to fix rates of dockage, wharfage and other rates upon all public and private wharves and landings in the Territory of Hawaii,' I beg to say:

"There can be no doubt that the Board of Harbor Commissioners has authority over all public landings in the Territory and may fix rates of dockage, wharfage and other rates upon same, for such authority is expressly granted by Act 163, Session Laws 1911. The question, however, that I apprehend most interests the Board is whether the Board has an

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